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Motor Vehicle Crashes are the Leading Cause of Death for Teenagers

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teenagers which is why I feel they should not be allowed to drive. Losing a friend to a car accident is one of the most painful experiences I have ever had and I don’t want anyone else getting hurt or even having to go through what I did. I understand that it is a “right of passage” and more of a convenience, instead of taking a bus or relying on mom and dad but they are dangerous to themselves and others. Teens are reckless drivers, party hard, and they are not mature enough.

Teenagers are the most reckless drivers out on the road today. Many do not yield properly, blow stop signs, and run red lights. A more common theme of reckless driving is speeding. Many teenagers feel the need to rush, rush, rush, which leads to outrageous speeds. Racing has also become common among friends on the highway or even straight roads.

The biggest accident is the “fender bender” which happens while following too closely or tailgating. Inexperienced or very impatient young drivers do this often but there’s no point considering you are not going to go any faster. During my senior year of high school, one of my best friends got into an accident and died. He was at the mall with two of his friends driving reckless. Attending the wakes, and funerals of the boys was one of the hardest things I have ever been through. For weeks, I couldn’t eat, sleep, or think well. All I could think about is how my friend is never coming back. If I had the chance to redo things I would have told them to be careful and slow down.

While in high school, every day is a different party. Even though its illegal, teenagers experiment all the time with different types of alcohol and drugs. A lot of teens feel that after having only a few drinks or so that they can drive but the truth is, that they can’t. When you drink and drive, no matter what amount you consumed, you are a danger to everyone. The most common times for teen accidents are on the weekends and between 9pm and 6am. Curfew laws are a step in the right direction but enforcing it more would send a message to kids.

At age sixteen, most kids are not thinking about tomorrow, only today. The feeling of being invincible makes kids think that nothing bad can ever happen to them especially while driving recklessly. Maturity is a necessity to being a good driver and most sixteen year olds lack that, only because they are young and still learning. If you are not a very mature person, then pretty much any noise, any movement, or person can become a distraction. The most common distractions are cell phones, ipods/radio, and passengers. Texting while driving is one of the worst things you can do but teenagers do it anyways. Also, having a car jam packed with friends is not a very good idea considering all the noise and movement.

In conclusion, sixteen year olds should not be allowed to drive. More laws need to be placed in order to save our young drivers. Teen car crashes are too frequent these days because of reckless driving, partying, and maturity levels.